conditions unfavourable to the workers after they reach Malaysia are also received. In all such cases the High Commission takes prompt action and outstanding dues are settled with the intervention of the Malaysian authorities.

(c) India and Malaysia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on employment of workers on 3rd January 2009. The MoU provides an institutional framework for addressing various issues pertaining to the welfare of Indian workers in Malaysia and redressal of their grievances.

The Malaysian Government has also initiated a scheme of Pre-departure Orientation under which all workers going for employment to Malaysia will undergo ten days Induction Course which will provide exposure to the culture of Malaysia, language (English or Malay) and knowledge of labour laws.

A Joint Working Group has been constituted under the bilateral MOU to resolve problems relating to migration of the workers arising from time to time.

Minimum sittings of Parliament

2939. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether there is a constitutional requirement of minimum number of days of sitting for the Parliament and if not what would be required to be done to have such a stipulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): No, Sir, the Constitution would required to be amended to have a minimum number of days of sittings for the Parliament.

Women in Government jobs

†2940. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the total number of employees in Central Government only 7.53 per cent are women;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the percentage of women employees in Central Government at present, group-wise; and

(d) their expected number at the end of eleventh five year plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) As per the census of Central Government employees conducted by the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment in 2004, 9.68 per cent of Central Government employees were women.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The percentage of women employees in Central Government at present, group-wise is not available.

(d) No forecast of the number of women employees at the end of eleventh five year plan is available. However, their number is expected to increase as a result of women friendly policies of the Government.

Annual appraisal of members of IAS

2941. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is mulling over changing the annual appraisal for members of the Indian Administrative Services; and

(b) if so, the reasons for Government changing the two-year old numerical grading system which is being used at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Need for intellectuals and experts

†2942. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the need for additional intellectuals and experts for running the administration of the country is being felt;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government has formulated any action plan keeping in view the above felt need; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Second Administrative Reforms Commission in its Tenth report titled "Refurbishing of Personnel Administration — Scaling New Heights" presented on 27.11.2008 has mentioned that "there is almost universal acknowledgment of the need to induct outstanding skills and talent from outside the Government to staff some positions in Government departments". Accordingly the Commission has recommended that for positions at the HAG level and above positions could be earmarked for which outside talent would be desirable. Applications to fill up these posts would be invited from interested and eligible persons from the open market and also, from serving eligible officers.

(c) and (d) The Government is examining the recommendation.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.